

HOLY FAMILY PARISH, MOSSEND

CENTENARY



1868 ————— 1968

SOUVENIR BROCHURE



VERY REV. PATRICK CANON KELLY

SUNDAY, 12th MAY, 1968



Pontifical High Mass

Celebrant:

RIGHT REVEREND FRANCIS THOMSON, S.T.L., M.A.
BISHOP OF MOTHERWELL.

Deacon:

VERY REVEREND JAMES CANON KILPATRICK.

Sub-Deacon:

REVEREND GEORGE BOYD.

Preacher:

REVEREND EDMUND CAMPION, O.F.M.



- MONDAY, 13TH MAY - THANKSGIVING MASS.
- TUESDAY, 14TH MAY - OLD FOLKS' TREAT.
- WEDNESDAY, 15TH MAY - MASS SUNG—CHILDREN.
- WEDNESDAY EVENING - SCHOOL CONCERT BY CHILDREN.
- THURSDAY, 16TH MAY - PARISH SOCIAL AND DANCE.
- FRIDAY, 17TH MAY - REQUIEM MASS FOR ALL DECEASED PARISHIONERS.
- SATURDAY, 18TH MAY - REQUIEM MASS FOR PAST TEACHERS AND PUPILS
OF SCHOOL.

A CENTURY OF HISTORY

In pre-Reformation times there were at least two Catholic churches in the Bothwell area, one at Bothwell and the other at Chapelhall. There is no trace whatever now of the early medieval church at Chapelhall.

During the twelfth century a Norman church was built in Bothwell on the site of the present nave; and in the fourteenth century the Earl of Douglas had this church in Bothwell erected into a collegiate church with a provost (a dignitary set over a collegiate church) and eight prebendaries (resident clergy in a collegiate church). Further, he built a choir and dedicated it to St. Bride, the patron saint of the Douglas family.

In 1300, Edward I in his campaign against the Scots, stayed in Bothwell for several days, and on the 8th September he made an offering in honour of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin in a chapel at Bothwell. It was probably in a temporarily erected chapel that he made his offering and not in Bothwell chapel, for in the old documents it states, "his chapel."

At any rate, the importance of Bothwell in early times cannot be over-estimated, what with its church and its clergy to serve the needs of the people, probably for miles around, its castle as a place of defence and also of refuge, and later its bridge which had a great strategic position and at one time, in fact, was the only bridge between Bothwell and the source of the Clyde.

From those early days the Sacrifice of the Mass was daily offered in Bothwell until the ravages of the Reformation in the sixteenth century drove the ancient faith from the people and for many, many years the solemn services of the Catholic Church were known no more in many places in Scotland. Among these places was Bothwell.

The lot of the Scots Catholics after the Reformation was a desperate one. The Penal

Laws were imposed upon them with the utmost severity. Priests were banished from the country, as were also those people who gave them refuge or had been discovered attending Mass. No Catholic had the right of succession in regard to inheritance—it went to his nearest Protestant relative. Catholics were not allowed to own property, and they were also debarred from entering most professions. These are only a few of the measures resorted to in order to stamp out Catholicism. However, by the end of the 18th century there was a relaxation in the Penal Laws, and the passing of the Catholic Relief Bill in 1829 saw the disappearance of most of the enactments which had dealt so harshly with Scottish Catholics.

The parish of Bothwell at the beginning of last century was comprised of the villages of Bothwell, Uddingston, Bellshill, Holytown, New Stevenston, Carfin, Chapelhall and Calderbank. We can find no mention anywhere, at that time, of Mossend, not even in the Statistical Account of 1836.

The population of the parish of Bothwell in the early part of the nineteenth century was round about 3,000, and by 1836 it had increased to 6,581. The trades and occupations were: weavers 407, colliers 263, labourers 211, farmers 78, publicans 52, masons 29, joiners 27, carters 27, shoemakers 23, stocking-weavers 18, tailors 16, gardeners 15, engineers 13, teachers 10, and other trades and occupations less than 10.

The ecclesiastical statistics for this period show that there were in 1836 in the parish of Bothwell only 118 Catholics.

At that time a man taking a walk along what we now call the main street would notice that most of the dwellings were thatched. In these houses weavers would be busy at their hand looms for, as we have seen, the chief occupation in the parish of Bothwell then was weaving.

If it were early in the day he would see the stage coach from Glasgow to Edinburgh go racing past after having made a stop at Crossgates to set down or uplift passengers. Then on it would go by way of Woodhall and out on to the Edinburgh road north of Holytown. Later on in the day, the stage coach from Edinburgh would pass through on its way to Glasgow.

The face of this district was, as yet, unsullied by pit bings, and there were no chimney stalks anywhere belching forth smoke to pollute the atmosphere. All around were fine farmlands, lovely woods and clear streams. Salmon were still making their way up the Clyde in the spawning season, although their progress was halted between Blantyre and Bothwell, where a dam had been built.

But great changes were impending. Iron ore had been found in considerable quantities in the parish, and in 1831 it was being wrought at Woodhall, at Calderbraes and near Newhouse. Coal was being mined in the Holytown-New Stevenston district, and only there because the coal seams did not lie deep. Then in 1839 the Neilsons erected at Mossend, malleable iron works, on the site where now stands the I.C.I. factory. This is the first time mention is made of "Mossend" in any of our researches. The choice of Mossend for ironworks was a natural one, since the iron ore and the coal for the works were easily accessible, and because six years earlier the first railway line, in the Bothwell area, from Wishaw and Coltness to Holytown, had opened. Moreover, the Glasgow to Edinburgh railway was in the course of construction and indeed was operating by 1842. This latter opening was a death blow to the stage coach traffic between the two cities, and put the stage coach owners out of business almost immediately. No more were they to be seen passing through Bellshill and Mossend on their way to Edinburgh or Glasgow.

The district was now growing rapidly in population, and for various reasons. There is no doubt that the Great Famine in Ireland in 1846-47 led many of the Irish, besides crossing the Atlantic in the notorious "Coffin Ships," to come by way of Belfast to Glasgow and then disperse to the industrial areas seeking employment. Then, too, the Highland clearances

forced many of the Highlanders to come south to the Lowlands where they could find work and set up new homes.

Going back more than a hundred years ago to 1853, we find in Lanarkshire there were churches in Airdrie (St. Margaret, 1836), Hamilton (St. Mary, 1846), Rutherglen (St. Columbkille, 1851), and in Carstairs a beautiful private chapel had been fitted up in the mansion house of Mr. Robert J. Monteith. In 1857 a Mission was established in Carluke (St. Athanasius) and in the same year, in Chapelhall, a school was erected and Mass was said there every Sunday by a priest from Airdrie.

We are now drawing near to the point when the history of the Holy Family Parish is about to begin.

Our First Parish Priest

Rev. James Milne

The Rev. James Milne was born in Enzie, Banffshire, in 1828, and entered Blairs College in 1842. Later he was transferred to the great seminary at Arras, where he studied the course of Philosophy and Theology. On returning to Scotland, he was raised to the priesthood by the Right Rev. Dr. Smith in July, 1856.

After his ordination, Father Milne was stationed at St. Patrick's, Glasgow, till the end of September, when he was appointed to St. Mary's, Hamilton.

After serving for a short time in Hamilton, he was sent to St. Mungo's, Glasgow, and from there in 1859 to Chapelhall as pastor of that mission which had just then been opened. It had neither chapel nor chapel-house, but only a large school which had been built some years before. This building was transformed into a temporary chapel seated for 140, but having standing room for several hundreds more, with a priest's residence of a very modest kind at one end. The number of Catholics there was then about 1,200, but on account of a stoppage in the Calderbank Ironworks and the exhaustion of minerals in the neighbourhood of Chapelhall, the Catholic population soon became diminished and whole families left the district to find new homes in other places such as Holy-

town, Mossend and Bellshill. A new centre, therefore, had to be chosen for a mission and Mossend was selected as the place which seemed most suitable. This shows a complete change of plan. In the *Scottish Catholic Directory* for the years 1865, 1866 and 1867, it is stated, "Arrangements are being made to erect a Chapel at Holytown."



REV. JAMES MILNE.

On 15th March, 1868, Father Milne built in Mossend a new chapel-school, dedicated to the Holy Family, seated for 500 people, at a cost of £1,000. Each Sunday, Father Milne offered one Mass in Chapelhall and one in Mossend.

Old parishioners have said, and they were told this by their parents and grandparents, that on the Sundays Father Milne came to Mossend to say Mass his breakfast was made and taken over to him by a non-Catholic woman who stayed in the house (it was a house, then, not a shop) at the corner of Hope Street and Calder Road. Later, he erected a chapel-house in Mossend and came to stay here in 1872.

The school in 1868 had an average attendance of 190 pupils, with Miss Mary McCluskey from Liverpool as the first headmistress. Seven years later the average attendance was 275

pupils, which fact shows the growth of the parish, although, surprisingly, the numbers dropped to 203 in 1880. In 1878 Confirmation was administered to 200 in the parish, and the following year to 229.



By courtesy of Rev. Fr. Matthews, Kilbirnie.

Father Milne's labours in looking after the spiritual welfare of such a scattered mission were extremely heavy and his health soon began to give way, so that in August, 1873, it was found necessary to divide the mission and entrust the care of Chapelhall to another priest. He himself remained in charge of our parish till 1881, when he was transferred to the mission of Kilbirnie.

During these years the district was growing rapidly because of the great increase in industry. More mines had been opened up, and in 1870 Clydesdale works were erected, followed by Milnwood in 1872.

To return to Father Milne. It was said of him that he seldom left his own mission. He was cheerful but reserved, and very austere in his habits. A man of great stature and robust,

he thought nothing could wear him out. Unfortunately, he contracted a severe illness as a result of carrying out his spiritual duties and he died on 1st February, 1890.

The funeral obsequies were held on the following Tuesday when Kilbirnie Church was crowded to overflowing. Canon Chisholm of Paisley was the celebrant at Mass and the Very Rev. Canon Condon preached and sketched the life of his old friend.

The coffin was carried on the shoulders of the League of the Cross members to Kilbirnie Station, a distance of over a mile—six men carrying it in relays. The body was conveyed to Glasgow and thence to Dalbeth Cemetery where the interment took place.

Rev. Michael Fox, D.D.

In 1881 Rev. Michael Fox succeeded Father Milne as priest-in-charge at Mossend.



REV. MICHAEL FOX, D.D.

Father Fox was born in Co. Tyrone in August, 1837. When quite young he came with his parents to Scotland. After three years at Blairs College, from 1853 to 1856, he was sent to the College of Propaganda in Rome. In 1863 he was ordained priest by Cardinal Patrizi at the Public Ordination in St. John Lateran's. On returning to Scotland, he served for a short time in Pollokshaws and afterwards in Greenock and Port Glasgow. In 1867 he was placed in charge of the Mission of St. Mark's, Alexandria. Seven years later, he was appointed priest-in-charge of Holy Family Parish, Mossend.

Doctor Fox earned a great reputation as a builder of churches and schools. A short time after coming to Mossend he erected a large addition to the chapel-school. Up to this time, there was only a small Infants' room, and no class room connected to the existing school. With this addition there was now ample room for the accommodation of 460 pupils.

In 1883 work began on the erection of a new church which was opened in 1884. This description of the church and the account of the opening service is from the *Scottish Catholic Directory*.

"On 16th November, there was opened at Mossend a very beautiful church designed by Messrs. Pugin and Pugin, Westminster, and carried out under their superintendence by Mr. John Devlin of Glasgow.

"The building consists of nave, aisles, chancel and baptistery; and a tower, which is to be surmounted by a tapering spire, is placed at the first gable. The nave is divided into seven bays and is lighted at the west end by a three-light window with cuspid heads on each side. In each bay there is a triplet of quatrefoil windows, in clerestory, and a three-light window with cuspid heads in the aisle. The baptistery is at the north-east angle, and is apsidal in form, lighted by six single-light windows, with cuspid heads. The tower is at the south-east angle, and the spire when completed (the spire was never erected) will be 124 feet high. There are two doors at the east end leading into a large porch and supported by three arches filled in with a wooden screen and glass. The chancel, which is divided from the nave by an arch, is square in form and lighted at each end by a rose window, and at each side by two single trefoil-headed windows. The side chapels on each side have a rose window. The total length of the church is 112 feet and the width of the nave and the aisles 50 feet. The height from the ground to the roof is 47 feet. Carlin stone has been used throughout, with polished dressing and rock-faced facings.

"The church is one of the neatest, most chaste and elegant in this part of the country, and is, in many respects, unique in its details, which include all the latest improvements and

embellishment which are known to the eminent firm under whose direction it has been carried through. The interior has a most beautiful and cheering aspect, and will accommodate upwards of 800 worshippers.

"At the opening service there was a large attendance. Archbishop Eyre preached at High Mass, which was celebrated by Dr. Fox, the priest in charge of the Mission, and Canon Carmichael preached in the evening. The music was rendered by the choir of St. John's, Glasgow."

In September, 1885, a new altar was dedicated in the church, and High Mass, in the presence of the Archbishop, was celebrated by Dr. Fox, and the sermon was preached by His Grace Archbishop Eyre. The evening sermon was preached by Provost Munro.

Thus, in a few short years, and with limited means at his disposal, Dr. Fox had built a new church, a beautiful new high altar, and a new infant school.

Dr. Fox was a man of great courtesy, humble, tender and ever anxious for the salvation of souls. His influence was felt throughout the district by his sterling work on the School Board.

In 1892 he was transferred to Longriggend, and four years later he was placed in charge of St. Lawrence's, Greenock. Here he was back again in the town in which he had served as a young curate almost thirty years previously. With his customary energy and enthusiasm he set about the task of having a new church built for his parishioners. In this beautiful gothic church he erected a high altar which is looked upon as one of the finest in the West of Scotland.

After a protracted illness of almost a year, Dr. Fox died in April, 1906, and was buried in a crypt of the church he had raised to the honour and glory of God.

Among the mourners at his funeral were four priests who were later to take charge of our Mission: Father Cronin, Father Brown, Father McMenemy and Father Flanagan.

Rev. Michael Hughes

Rev. Michael Fox was succeeded in 1892 by Rev. Michael Hughes who, previous to his coming to Mossend, had been priest-in-charge at St. Patrick's, Dumbarton.



REV. MICHAEL HUGHES.

Throughout his stay here there was a steady growth in the size of the parish, as is evinced by the fact that in 1895 it was deemed necessary to send, in order to assist him, our first curate, Rev. Charles Daly, and, in 1898, a second curate, Rev. Michael McCormack.

There were now three Masses on Sundays and the school had a roll of over 500.

Dean Hughes took a deep interest in all aspects of the life of the parish. The parishioners were his people and he mixed with them freely. He shared their joys and their sorrows and, at all times, he had their welfare, both spiritual and material, at heart. An outstanding example of his concern for them is worth recounting.

Towards the end of 1899 about 400 employees of the Mossend Iron and Steel Company, quite a number of whom were Mossend parishioners, tendered 14 days' notice because of the dismissal of thirteen of their fellow-workers for being members of a trade union, and also for a claim to have their wages raised to the county standard. This strike caused great hardship in the district and the cause of the strikers was openly espoused by Dean Hughes. In the *Glasgow Observer* of 16/12/1899, it is stated there that during the previous week two

demonstrations of the Mossend strikers were headed by the Rev. Dean Hughes. Attempts were made to break the strike by employing black-legs from other districts. All of these attempts failed. The strike dragged on for fourteen months, after which the Mossend Iron and Steel Works closed down, and remained closed for seven years until re-opened by Beardmore's.

"The first annual excursion of the parish took place on Monday, 17th July, 1899. At 6.30 a.m. Mass was celebrated, at which there was a large attendance. The excursionists were then accompanied by the Bellshill Union Brass Band to the railway station. There was a turnout of close on 1,200, which taxed to the utmost two lengthy trains.

"On arriving at Portobello, the excursionists dispersed to enjoy themselves. At five o'clock the band returned to the park, where a fine selection of dance music was discoursed, of which full advantage was taken.

"The homeward journey was made about seven o'clock, arriving at Bellshill about nine o'clock. A most enjoyable day was spent."

These annual excursions continued right up to the outbreak of the First World War. They were revived after the war, but, when the full force of the depression hit this district, they ceased.

DEAN HUGHES' LEAVE-TAKING

"On Friday, 4th March, 1904, prior to leaving for Glasgow to take over his duties as priest-in-charge of the Sacred Heart, Bridgeton, Dean Hughes fulfilled his last engagement in the Mossend parish by presiding over the Foresters' entertainment of their junior members in the Drill Hall.

"Dean Hughes was accompanied on the platform by Father Griffin, Father Kenneally, Messrs. T. J. Briody, James Steele, James McCourt, James Lynch, Patrick Corcoran, Henry McCarey and Hugh Steele. The audience was large, the songs were sweetly sung and the various entertainments which usually provoke the most hearty laughter, were carried out in faultless style, but all failed to touch that light

responsive chord in the hearts of the audience which they are expected to reach. One thought alone occupied the mind of every individual present, viz., that he who for eleven years had been their best guide and wisest counsellor was present that night to bid them goodbye. One item alone in the programme allowed them to give vent to their pent-up feelings—the production on the screen of a portrait of Dean Hughes by means of a cinematograph—and that item evoked an outburst of applause which spoke more eloquently than words.

"During what should have been a break in the programme, but what proved the end of it, Father Griffin rose to express to Dean Hughes his own regret and that of the entire congregation at his departure from their midst. He said that they recognised that the wish of the Archbishop must be carried out; but though Dean Hughes went from amongst them, he would, no doubt, always look back to Mossend with the best thoughts. He had always worked to make their lives more happy and prosperous. He was now going to a new parish, and they would no longer hear his familiar voice. Amongst the poor he would be most sadly missed. They all hoped he would be as happy in his new mission as he had been in Mossend, and that God would grant him every blessing in his new field of labour. Father Kenneally expressed his concurrence with what had been said by Father Griffin.

"Dean Hughes, who on rising received a great ovation, expressed his gratification at seeing such an excellent entertainment provided by the young children, and thanked the Foresters for providing it. He thanked them heartily for their kind expressions, and assured them that he required no votes from them to assure him of their good wishes and loyalty. They were a loyal people, true to their faith, and he hoped they would always remain so. The priest who came there to be their pastor had every reason to be proud of the presbytery, proud of the church, and proud of the people amongst whom he was to work. He hoped the little children present would grow up good Catholics and good Irish men and women, and that the grown-up people would always remain

true to the sacred traditions of their creed and country. He must now say the last word—goodbye—and he hoped they would give him their prayers.

“Father Hughes then left to catch the train, followed by the entire audience, which packed both platforms of the station. The Bellshill Union Band was present, and as the train entered the platform played, ‘Will ye no’ come back again?’”

During his missionary career Father Hughes rendered great service to the Catholic cause and he left behind him many monuments to his practical zeal and indefatigable energy. He planned and built the presbytery at Mossend and remodelled the one in Bridgeton. Undoubtedly his greatest achievement, however, was the erection of the magnificent Church of the Sacred Heart, Bridgeton.

It was said of him: “He was a father among his people and ever ready to help them in their sorrows. His excellent natural qualities were sanctified by grace. He had a keen intellect, quick in apprehension and sure in following the point of the most complicated question or argument. But even more, the kindness of his heart stood him in good stead. He was straightforward, as some may have thought to a fault. But what he said he meant. This accounts for the absolute trust reposed in him by his people, by his fellow priests and by his ecclesiastical superiors.”

Father Hughes, later, of course, Canon Hughes, died at Glasgow, in 1921.

Rev. John Scannell

After the departure of Rev. Michael Hughes in 1904, the parish was placed under the charge of Rev. John Scannell. The school had now an average attendance of 550 pupils, and Father Scannell, being a man of foresight and prudence, knew that ere long the school, built in 1868, would not be able to cope with the number of children in the district who would have to be enrolled. And, moreover, the building itself, as he knew well was, for the most part, out-of-date. He therefore called a meeting of the men of the parish in September, 1904.

Father Scannell explained to the very large and representative gathering of the men the object of the meeting, and said that they were there to consider what could be done to bring their school up-to-date according to the latest



REV. JOHN SCANNELL.

requirements of the Education Code, either by structural alterations or by the building of a new school. In the first place they would have to approach His Grace the Archbishop to obtain his sanction for any plan that they might devise. In the second place, the members of the parish would require to make some sacrifice which would justify them in some measure in thinking of any such scheme. They might, he said, look back with legitimate pride on the achievements of the Catholics of Lanarkshire for the last forty years in the matter of building and maintenance of their schools.

Parish Councillor Mr. James McCourt, D.C.R., I.N.F., speaking on behalf of the parishioners, said he had no doubt that their Rev. Chairman's ideas on this matter would be fulfilled to the letter. That great meeting was an eloquent expression of the goodwill and loyalty of the people. He then submitted resolutions in support of the scheme outlined, which were seconded by Messrs. Manus Glancy and Daniel Doyle, who also spoke in favour of the resolutions. They were carried with acclamation.

The following officials were then appointed: Hon. President, Rev. John Scannell; Chairman of the Committee, Parish Councillor James McCourt; Vice-Chairmen, Messrs. Manus

Ladies' 100 yards race—1, Janet O'Neill; 2, Mary Lundy; 3, Bridget Rooney; 4, Mrs. Patrick McGeechan.

Half mile race (open)—1, Hugh Finnigan; 2, Michael O'Halloran; 3, John O'Neill; 4, Edward Larkin.

Old men's race—1, Owen Kelly; 2, Charles Greer; 3, Patrick Darby.

Place kick for men—1, Charles Farrell; 2, Michael O'Halloran; 3, Joseph Garvie.

Place kick for boys who have left school—1, Charles Houlston; 2, Frank Drummond; 3, Frank Mina.

Place kick for schoolboys—1, John McCormack; 2, John Buchanan; 3, Michael Crines.

100 yards for junior boys—1, Thomas Greer; 2, Thomas Gallagher; 3, William Greer.

100 yards for junior girls—1, Mary Gallagher; 2, Kate Carley; 3, Kate Harkins.

Boys of the 3rd and 4th standards—1, Dan Cairns; 2, Bernard McCourt; 3, Joseph McGuire.

Girls of the 3rd and 4th standards—1, Sarah Nugent; 2, Mary Bannon; 3, Nellie Rea and Mary McCool.

Boys of the 5th and 6th standards—1, John Greer; 2, Joseph O'Halloran; 3, Bernard Carr.

Girls of the 5th and 6th standards—1, Jane O'Neill; 2, Mary O'Hara; 3, Annie Donnelly.

Father Scannell's life was a fine example of untiring devotion to priestly work under the drawback of almost continual ill-health. In November, 1905, he sailed for New Zealand and spent four months there in an effort to better his health. On his return in 1906, Father Scannell resumed his duties despite the fact that he was still far from being well. In 1907 he had a prolonged and severe illness and died in July of that year.

The finely equipped school which we have was completed only a few months before his death. It stands as a splendid monument to his zeal in the cause of Catholic education.

It was said of him that he was clever, brilliant and devoted with all the intensity of an intense

nature to his priestly work and to the welfare of his flock. He was impatient and intolerant only of humbug or of wrong; direct, outspoken and transparently sincere.

He was buried in Ireland in the cemetery of his native place in County Cork.

Dean Cronin

Rev. Francis Cronin was appointed to Mossend in 1907. He was born at Alexandria on 1st September, 1869, and entered Blairs College in 1884. After three years he was transferred to the Royal Scots College, Valladolid. During his college career he won the esteem and affection of his superiors and fellow-students by his outstanding ability and charming manner, and already he had displayed those many traits of character which marked his subsequent career.



REV. FRANCIS CRONIN.

He was ordained on the Feast of Corpus Christi, 24th May, 1894. After serving for a time at St. Mary's, Abercromby Street, and Our Lady and St. Margaret's, Kinning Park, he was given in 1901 the charge of the Mission at Gourrock. In 1906 he was transferred to Saltcoats, where the chapel-school of West Kilbride owed its existence to his forethought and zeal.

On coming to Mossend, Dean Cronin, as he was usually called, soon made his presence felt throughout the parish. A keen and able educationist, he was elected to the School Board for the Parish of Bothwell, and in these School Board elections he invariably topped the poll.

This news item is taken from *The Observer*, 8th May, 1909:

"Polling for the election of a School Board for the Parish of Bothwell took place last Friday and resulted in a magnificent triumph for Dean Cronin of Mossend, who heads the list of successful candidates with 12,465 votes, the next having 6,482, and the lowest successful 3,314. There were fourteen candidates for eleven seats and the result says much for the electoral energy of the Dean, the enthusiasm of his workers and the loyalty of his people."

Bothwell had been without a Catholic church of any kind since the Reformation until the early part of this century when a chapel connected with the Convent was built. This chapel, of course, did not serve the purposes of a Catholic congregation, and so efforts were made to erect a place where the people of the district could hear Mass without having to journey to Uddingston and surrounding parishes. In these efforts Dean Cronin was the leader, and it was the result mainly of his zeal and energy that on Sunday, 3rd April, 1909, a new building, comprising a chapel, a school and a parochial hall, was opened.

In March, 1909, it was agreed by the local School Board authorities to give a grant of free books to the Catholic schools in the district, but only when they were given the assurance by the managers of the Catholic schools, i.e. the Parish Priests, that at all times they would be at liberty to have access to examine the school books. Previous to this grant, the responsibility for providing books for the children in our school was that of the parish priest and the parents.

In 1914 Mr. John B. Daniel was appointed headmaster of the school upon the retirement of Miss Myles. A man of outstanding ability, Mr. Daniel's influence extended far beyond the confines of the school. In all his undertakings he expected from everyone nothing but the best, just as he himself, as all recognised, always gave of his best. He was endowed with a great personality and was a strict disciplinarian. A most capable headmaster, he never spared himself in the many tasks which came his way. He had a deep personal interest in his pupils, and it cannot be over-emphasised how much he always had their welfare at heart.

About two years after Dean Cronin's coming to the parish, the Silver Jubilee of the Church took place in February, 1909. "The first sign of jubilation revealed itself in the erection of a handsome new pulpit, which has been generously presented, to mark the occasion, by two zealous parishioners.

"Solemn High Mass was celebrated at 11.30 a.m., of which Father Kenneally was the cele-



REV. BENJAMIN KENNEALLY.

brant, Dean Cronin, deacon, and Father Collins master of ceremonies. Dean Cronin was fittingly the first to address the congregation from the new pulpit. In the course of an interesting sketch of the mission's history, the Dean paid a generous tribute to the work accomplished by his predecessors, and the sacrifices made by the people in the acquiring of the parochial property which they that day possessed. He took that opportunity to thank the donors of the new pulpit and, indeed, to thank all who had helped towards the church building. The Dean concluded a useful discourse by pointing out what the Church was and what it should be.

"At the evening service another very large congregation was present and listened with zealous attention to a magnificent sermon by the eloquent and popular Jesuit, Father Matthew Power, of Lauriston, Edinburgh. No

one ever forgets, once having heard, a sermon by Father Power, and no one who was present on that Sunday evening at the church of the Holy Family will forget his impressive discourse on the appropriate subject of 'The Pulpit.'"

Under the strain of the many duties he had to perform, Dean Cronin's health gave way, and in 1917 a serious illness overtook him. He rallied for a time, but it was now evident that his strength had been undermined. Arrangements were being made for the Golden Jubilee of the parish in 1918 when he was seized with a cerebral haemorrhage. Father McLaughlin anointed him and shortly afterwards he passed away, on 31st October, 1918.

The Requiem Mass was celebrated on Monday, 4th November, by Father Gallagher, Father Steven being deacon and Father Murray subdeacon. Father Towie preached the panegyric. The absolutions were pronounced by Mgr. John Ritchie. Hundreds of parishioners walked behind the cortege to the west end of Bellshill, and many made their way to Dalbeth Cemetery to pay their last tribute to their beloved parish priest.

Rev. Duncan Brown

Rev. Duncan Brown, who succeeded Rev. Francis Cronin, was born in December, 1861. After studying for three years at Blairs College, Aberdeen, he was sent to the Royal Scots College, Valladolid, in July, 1881. He was ordained priest in March, 1887, by the Most Rev. Sanz Y Fores, Archbishop of Valladolid.

Father Brown first served as a curate at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Glasgow, and in 1888 he was transferred to Motherwell, where he remained until 1893. He was then given charge of the Parish of Neilston. Here he laboured zealously for seven years, until in 1900 he was promoted to St. Cuthbert's, Burnbank. During his stay there he found the church insufficient in size for the ever-growing needs of the parish and he built the present church which was opened in 1908. Ten years later, in 1918, he was given charge of our church here in Mossend. He erected the present Sacred Heart altar and

renovated the church in 1921. He served on the School Board of Bothwell and, later, after the transference of the schools, on the Education Authority. At every School Board election he was returned at the top of the poll.



REV. DUNCAN BROWN.

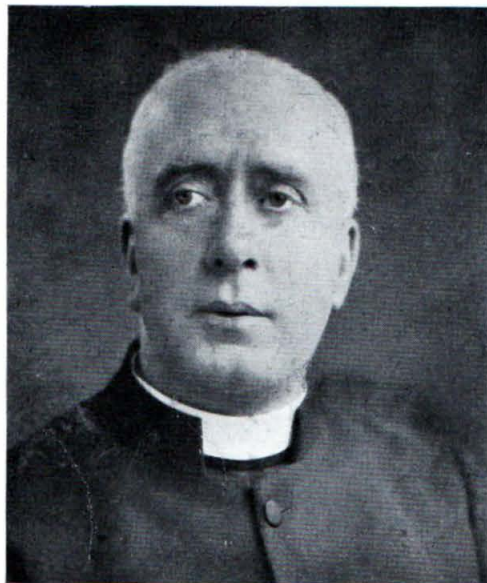
A man of charming character and with a kindly, genial manner, Father Brown won the affection of all classes and creeds. He was beloved by his parishioners and fellow-priests. Ill health compelled him to retire in 1926 and he died in September, 1932.

Requiem Mass for Father Brown was celebrated on 22nd September, 1932, in the presence of the Archbishop of Glasgow, in St. Mary's, Abercromby Street, Glasgow. The absolutions were given by the Archbishop, who, in a few words, paid tribute to the zealous work and the good qualities of the dead priest and exhorted all to pray for the repose of his soul.

Rev. John McMenemy

The new pastor of Holy Family, after the retiral of Dean Brown, was Rev. John McMenemy. He was born in Glasgow on 6th June, 1875. After leaving St. Mungo's Academy he went to Blairs College, where he completed his classical course. Next he proceeded to Petit Seminaire de Notre Dame des Champs, Paris, and then passed on to the Scots College, Valladolid, for higher studies. He was ordained there on 21st May, 1899.

On returning to Scotland he became curate at St. Patrick's, Glasgow, where he laboured for nine years. In 1908 he was placed in charge of the combined parishes of Largs and Wemyss Bay, where he remained until 1915. After a brief period at Stevenston, he was appointed in 1916 to Lambhill, and in June, 1926, he came to Mossend.



REV. JOHN McMENEMY.

Father McMenemy did not come to the parish at a very propitious time. The miners all over Britain had come out on strike at the beginning of May, 1926, and they had had the support of all other workers throughout the land, for a brief ten days, in what was known as the General Strike. After the collapse of the General Strike, the miners were left to continue the strike on their own. The strike continued for several months and it was not until September that it finally came to an end. The plight of many people in this district was undoubtedly serious, for the mines gave employment to a large number.

Unemployment in the district at that time was rife, but it was to become much more prevalent. Mossend Steel Works, which gave employment to over 1,000 workers, closed down

in 1928, and in 1932 the Universal mill, which had been installed in Clydesdale Steel Works, was removed to Corby and the number of employees fell from 900 to 230. Mining, too, in the Bellshill-Mossend, Holytown-New Stevenston area began to decline rapidly. Orbiston colliery had closed in 1925, Milnwood, or Coltness as it was commonly called, closed in 1928, and Douglas Park in 1929. The 1930's saw more closures. In 1930 East Parkhead closed, in 1931 Haughhead and Clydeside, in 1932 Hattonrigg and Bothwell Park, in 1933 Bredisholm, and in 1935 Whistleberry.

Good man that he was, Father McMenemy could not but feel deep concern for his parishioners who were affected by these catastrophes. Some of the miners sought employment in other areas, particularly Ayrshire and Fifeshire, and some of the steelworkers went south to Scunthorpe and Corby. This was the beginning of the exodus to Corby, where there is now a large colony of former Mossend parishioners.

It was against the background of these sorry happenings that the Golden Jubilee of our church took place.

"On November 17th, 1934, Solemn High Mass, to celebrate the occasion, was sung in the church by the Rev. John McQuillan, D.D., St. Isidore's, Symington, a former parishioner of the mission. He was assisted by the Rev. Father Gatauskas, Holy Family, deacon; and Father Gallagher, St. Charles', Paisley, sub-deacon; while the Rev. Daniel Kennedy acted as master of ceremonies.

"During the Mass an extremely interesting resumé of the history of the Holy Family Church, since the date of its inception on 16th November, 1884, the Feast of St. Margaret, patroness of Scotland, until the present day, was given by Father McMenemy, and prayers for the repose of the souls of the parishioners and clergy of the parish, who had passed away since then, were recited.

"The Holy Family Church has had a history of which it is justly proud. In the fifty years of its existence it has given to the Church the best of its sons to be priests of God, and not a few

priestly ordination, your record of achievement has been the natural result of your unceasing devotion to duty, your earnestness for the care of souls, your endless self-sacrifices on behalf of the poor and your constant and untiring solicitude for the sick and infirm."



REV. JOSEPH KENNEDY.

Father McMenemy established a branch of the C.Y.M.S. and its Chaplains during his time were: Rev. Dr. McDaid, and the Rev. Thomas Brooks, now Canon, and parish priest of St. Bartholomew's, Coatbridge.

Under Father McMenemy's guidance the Children of Mary was a very active society and he had as able helpers, Miss McQuillan, Miss Callaghan and Miss Rainey.

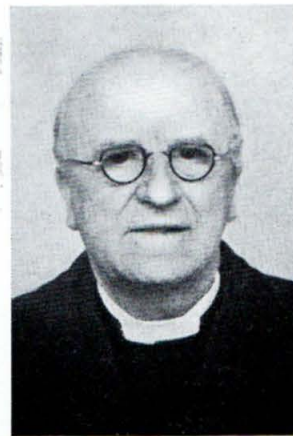
Besides being a religious Examiner for many years Father McMenemy was also diocesan secretary of the A.P.F.

For seven years he was the victim of that dreadful malady, Angina Pectoris, but this he kept a closely guarded secret. He died with startling suddenness, on 13th December, 1936, being anointed almost at the moment of his passing.

The Requiem was sung by his nephew, Father Edward McMenemy, Westminster, Canon Taylor preaching, and his funeral took place to St. Kentigern's.

Rev. William Flanagan

After Father McMenemy's death, Father William Flanagan came to Mossend to take charge of the parish. He was born in Glasgow in 1878 and entered Blairs College in 1893. Going abroad for his higher ecclesiastical studies, he spent a year at Notre Dame des Champs in Paris, and then returned to Scotland to complete his course of philosophy and theology at St. Peter's College, New Kilpatrick. He was raised to the priesthood in May, 1904, by the Most Rev. John A. Maguire, Archbishop of Glasgow.

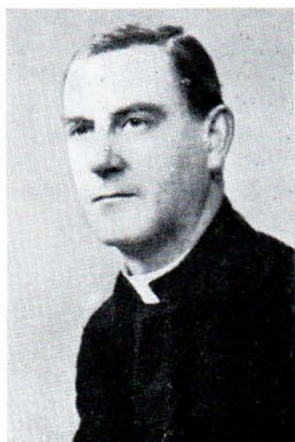


REV. WILLIAM FLANAGAN.

During his stay in Mossend, Father Flanagan carried out extensive alterations to the church and the parochial halls. He played a big part in the establishment of the two new parishes of St. John Bosco's, New Stevenston, in 1946, and of the Sacred Heart, Bellshill, in 1949. When the Sacred Heart parish was established Father James Butler, Father Niall Hayes and Father Augustine McCauley resided at the Presbytery, Mossend, and all the services for the Bellshill parishioners took place in the Holy Family Church.

On Mr. Fulton's retiral from the headship of the school, he was succeeded by Mr. Hugh Hendrie. The Second World War had just ended, and from then until 1956, when he was transferred to St. Monica's School, Coatbridge,

Mr. Hendrie by his guidance and by his encouragement, and with the help of his able staff, had the satisfaction of seeing the numbers of boys and girls embarking on Senior Secondary courses greatly increase.



REV. JAMES BUTLER.

Father Flanagan remained at Mossend until 1952, when advancing years and infirmity forced him to retire.

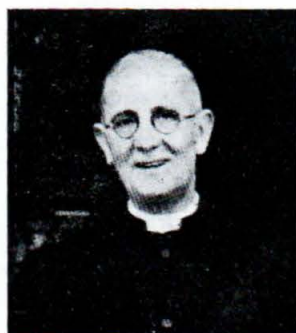
Of a quiet scholarly disposition, Father Flanagan had a delightful sense of humour which endeared him to all with whom he came in contact.

Six years after his retiral, Father Flanagan died in December, 1958, at Bon Secours Nursing Home, Langside. The funeral Mass was celebrated at the Holy Family Church, by Bishop Scanlan, in the presence of a crowded congregation, which included a large number of priests from the Province of Glasgow.

Rev. Peter Murie

The next pastor after Father Flanagan retired was Father Peter Murie, who was born at Airdrie in 1893. He was no stranger to the parish, for, as a young boy he had stayed with an aunt in Mossend and for some time was a pupil at the school.

Father Murie entered Blairs College in 1907, was transferred to the College of Propaganda in Rome in 1913 and later, in 1915, to St. Peter's College, New Kilpatrick. He was ordained in St. Andrew's Cathedral in 1919.



REV. PETER MURIE.

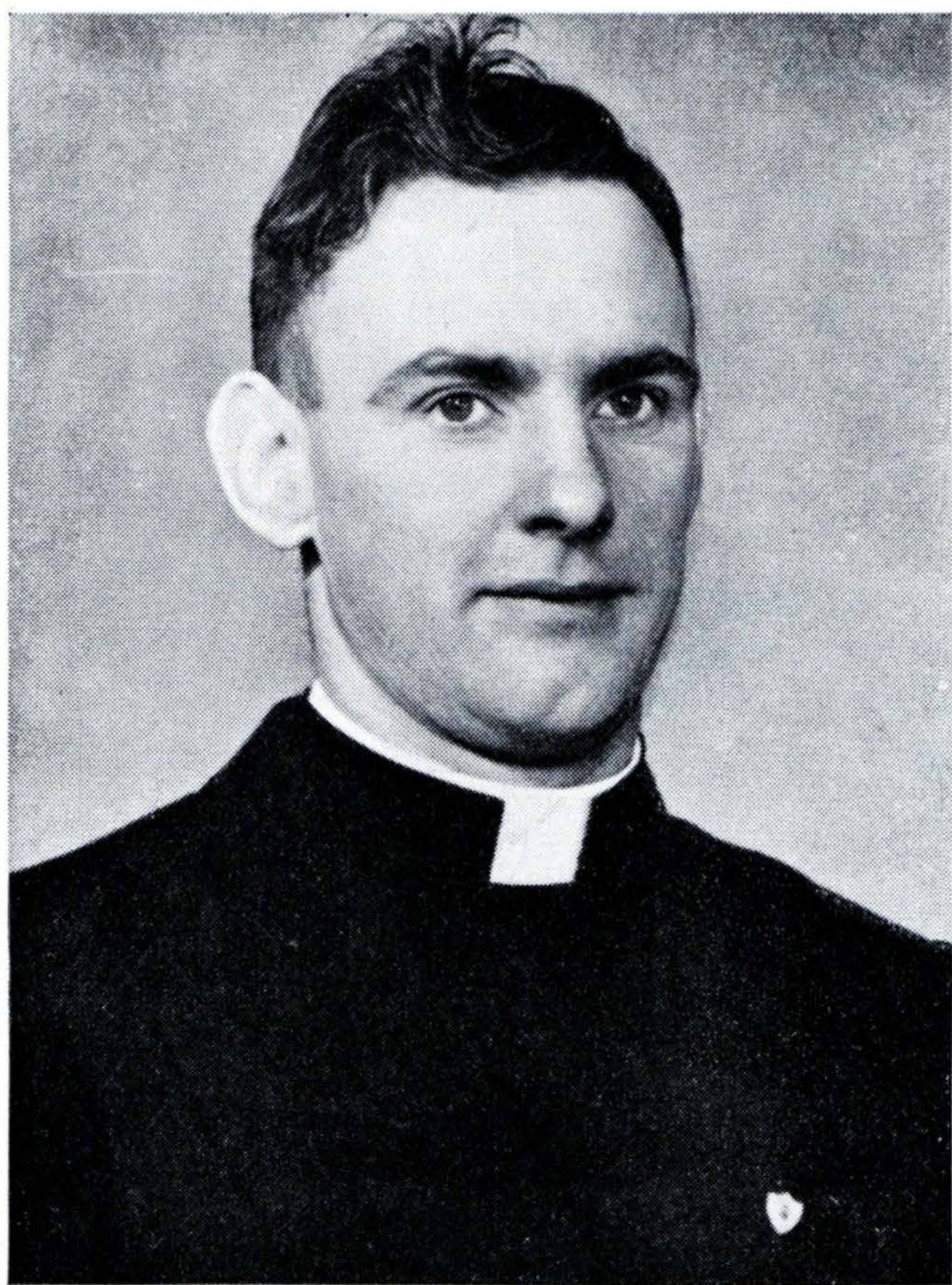
Father Murie's stay in Mossend was very brief—little more than a year. Even so, he showed in that time his zealous care for his parishioners and his deep-seated piety. He had a most artistic taste, and would not tolerate anything that was shoddy. His health was causing some concern, and he was transferred to Carluke, a smaller parish, in 1953. His stay in Carluke, then Aviemore, and afterwards as chaplain to the Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa at Moredun, Paisley, were also of short duration. In 1958 he decided to seek better health in America and he became chaplain to Providence House, Worcester, Massachusetts. He ministered to the old people there until his death in January, 1964.

Father Murie was a man of culture and his musical talent was ever at the service of the church. For many years it was taken for granted at any priest's funeral in the diocese that he would preside at the organ, and he was prepared to travel long distances to do so. He was a saintly man and a priest at all times.

Solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of his soul was celebrated at St. Columbkille's, Rutherglen, on Friday, 17th January, 1964. Archbishop Scanlan presided, and the assembly of clergy present indicated the esteem in which he was held.

Canon Kelly

Father Patrick Kelly was born at Cambuslang on 2nd October, 1894. He entered Blairs College in August, 1909, and was transferred to St. Peter's College, New Kilpatrick. In the First World War he served with the army from 1917 on the Western Front, where he was so seriously wounded that he had to spend several months in hospital. In 1920 he was sufficiently recovered to resume his studies at St. Peter's College. He was raised to the priesthood by the Most Rev. Donald Mackintosh, Archbishop of Glasgow, in St. Andrew's Cathedral, on 1st May, 1924.

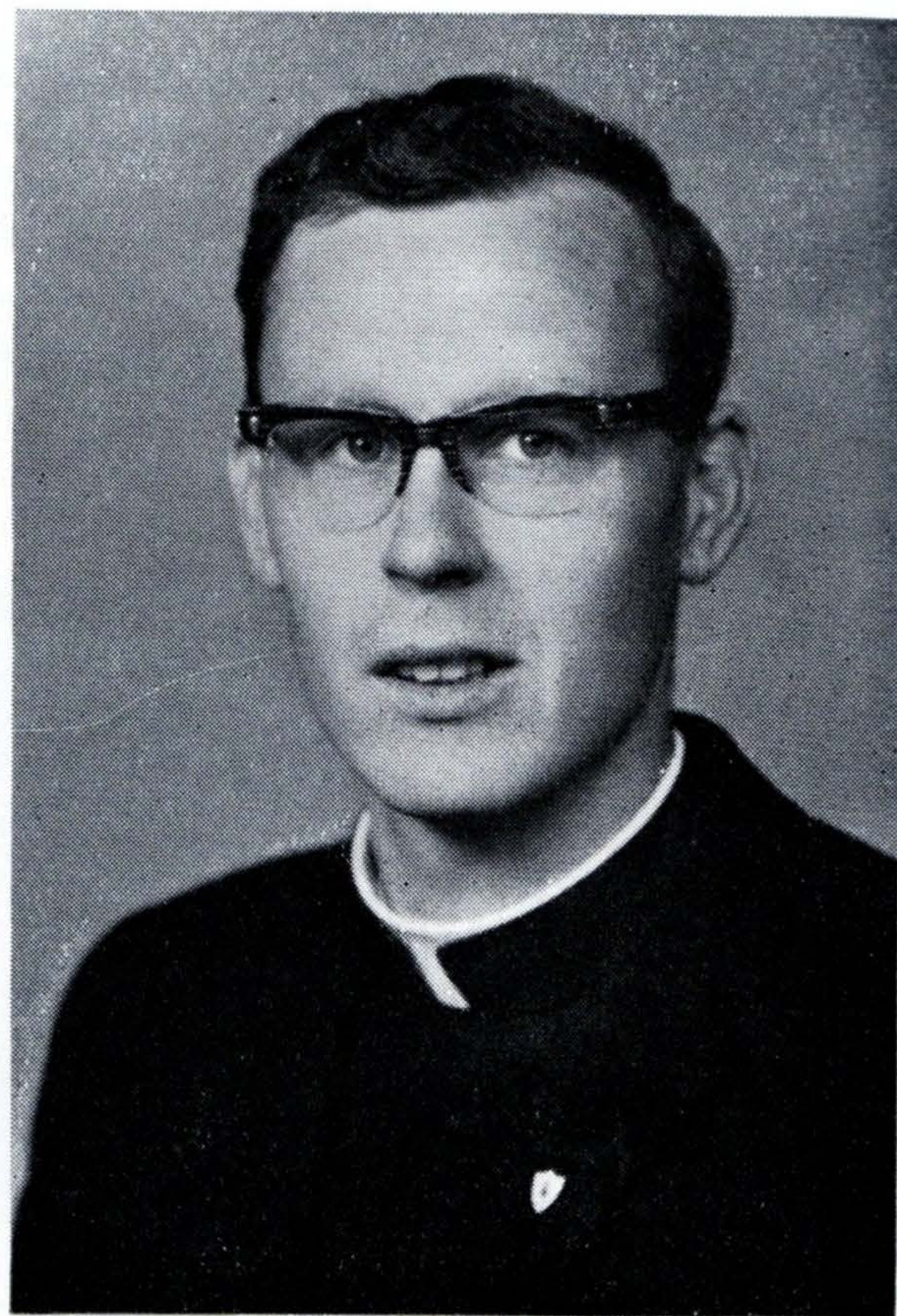


REV. WILLIAM SPROUL.
Present senior curate.

Father Kelly served as a curate in Cambuslang, Bishopbriggs, Coatbridge, Dalmuir and Viewpark, and as parish priest in Strathaven and Glenboig before being appointed to take charge of Mossend in 1953.

His able and wise administration in this parish is, to all of us, self-evident, and the many embellishments and renovations he has made to

the church warrant the highest praise. The exterior of the building has undergone a process of sand-blasting which has freshened and brightened considerably its appearance. A new heating system has been installed and this has made for comfort even on the coldest day. The seats have been refurbished, padded kneeling boards have been affixed to them and wooden crosses, light in tone, to contrast with the darker background of the seats, have been placed at the ends. The floor has been tastefully covered with armourite. The altar has been thoroughly cleaned, and the sanctuary steps lowered, thus extending the floor and affording more room. On the Gospel side of the sanctuary



REV. MICHAEL A. CUNNANE.
Present junior curate.

a new lectern has been set up. The organ has been completely overhauled and the church has been redecorated. To put it succinctly, much of the church has been completely transformed.

In this year of the centenary of our parish we are fortunate in having, not only now, but also for the last 15 years, a parish priest of Canon Kelly's ability and wisdom. When he

was raised to the dignity of a Canon of the Chapter of the Motherwell Diocese it was a fitting and well-deserved honour. Let us quote from the Address read on the occasion of the presentation to him of his Canonical robes, on April, 1967:

“The high esteem with which we regard you, and our sincere affection for you, are equalled only by our deep appreciation of your very successful efforts on behalf of the Parish which, despite a considerable depletion in its numbers is, thanks to your skilful management and organisation, still in a strong and vigorous condition.

“In the fourteen years you have been our Parish Priest you have been a tremendous inspiration to us, not only by the true Christian fervour you have always shown in your pastoral duties, but also by your abiding concern at all times for our spiritual welfare and in the keen and lively interest you have always taken in every aspect of the parochial life of the Parish.”

June, 1953, saw the first Ordination in the Holy Family Church, when Father John McCabe was raised to the priesthood by the Right Reverend Edward Douglas, Bishop of Motherwell.

In 1956 Miss Lynas was appointed to the headship of the Holy Family School. On the opening of the Sacred Heart School, Bellshill, the number of pupils at Mossend School fell to under 400. The roll, however, has increased in the last few years. Miss Lynas, ably assisted by Miss Rainey, the Infant Mistress, and by a very capable staff, continues to carry on the good work of her predecessors, and from the school in the past eleven years have come pupils well equipped academically to take their place alongside the pupils in the other schools to which they have been promoted.

Our first and only Jesuit priest from the parish is the Rev. Clarence Gallagher, S.J., who was ordained in July, 1963, at Heythrop College, by Archbishop Grimshaw.



REV. CLARENCE GALLAGHER, S.J.

Mother Angeline Teresa

March 6th, 1964.

Dear Mother Angeline Teresa,

Fifty years in the service of God is a cause for great rejoicing. Today I join your host of friends who share in your happiness as you look back on your golden years of loving labour for Him.

Countless hearts overflow with gratitude for the rich blessing God has bestowed on your inspired apostolate. For surely it is He alone Who has made it grow and prosper. He has favoured your Community with a wealth of vocations, and the elderly folk who have known the warm and loving care of the Carmelite Sisters are legion.

On this glad occasion of your Golden Jubilee I offer you my heartfelt congratulations, and I unite my prayers with your own in thanking God for His goodness to you and for your goodness to others.

Very sincerely yours in Christ,

✠ F. Cardinal Spellman,

Archbishop of New York.

Mother M. Angeline Teresa,
Saint Teresa's Motherhouse,
Avila-on-the-Hudson,
Germantown, N.Y.

In God's providence another parishioner of the Holy Family Church was to make the name Mossend familiar and treasured across the broad leagues of the Atlantic. Bridget McCrory, as she then was, received her only formal education at our school. She left the school in 1912 and in a few months joined the Little Sisters of the Poor at Garngad. Six months later she was sent to the Mother House of the Order at La Tourin, France, to complete her novitiate. In 1915 she was sent out to one of their convents in New York and so began her devoted life work of looking after the aged poor.

The nineteen-twenties were grim days in the United States, for those were the days of the world-wide depression, and even in New York, the great metropolis of the New World, there were literally thousands of people living in



REV. MOTHER M. ANGELINE TERESA.

misery and starvation. The problem is an old one, but in the circumstances, new methods of organised charity were required—and so in 1930, under Cardinal Hayes, and with the blessing of Pope Pius XI, a new Order was established. Mother Teresa Angeline became its Foundress. She chose the Little Flower to be its patroness and the new Order was affiliated as an active branch to the great Order of Carmel. Their main work continued to be looking after the aged poor, bringing the old couples to live together and endeavouring by every possible method to preserve the atmosphere of home.

The first House of the new Order was St. Patrick's House in the Bronx. It was opened in 1931. Now there are 29 Houses of the Order spread all over the United States, and there is one in Dublin and one also in Dunoon.

On July 1st, 1961, His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, presented Mother Angeline Teresa with the "Medal pro Ecclesia et Pontifice," obtained from His Holiness Pope John XXIII in recognition of her distinguished services to the Church and Holy Pontiff.

In 1964 Mother Angeline Teresa celebrated her Golden Jubilee and messages of congratulation were received by her from His Holiness Pope Paul VI, Cardinal Spellman, President Johnson, the Mayor of New York, and ecclesiastical authorities all over the world.

MOSSEND BOYS' GUILD JUVENILE F.C., 1941-42



A. McGuckin (Secy.), T. Walsh, G. Kelly, G. McCann, J. Howard, J. Kelly, M. Garrity, J. McCormack (Trainer).
Rev. T. Brooks, F. Walsh, W. Harper, T. O'Neill, J. Murphy, J. McCann, Rev. A. MacKellaig.

MOSSEND BOYS' GUILD JUVENILE F.C., 1942-43



V. Cahill, G. Kelly, J. McAuley, H. Glen, J. Brannon, M. Garrity, J. McCormack.
Rev. T. Brooks, F. McGowan, E. McNally, J. Murphy, T. Hailey, J. Dougan, J. Tonner.

MOSSEND BOYS' GUILD—John Thomson Memorial Trophy Winners, 1947



F. Feeney, J. Sweeney, R. Nesbit, R. Coyle, E. Callaghan, T. Crielly, W. Slavin,
Rev. T. Fehily, J. Quinn, A. Cepheauskas, J. Fullarton, A. Carr, L. Seagrave, W. Murphy.

MOSSEND BOYS' GUILD JUVENILE F.C., 1947-48



P. Maley, B. Carr, P. Duffy, J. Hayes, J. Martin, J. Duffy, T. Canning,
J. Canning (Pres.), J. Creechan, C. Gorman, J. Howard, G. Douglas, J. Kelly, J. Seagrave, P. O'Hanlon,
D. Welsh (Trainer).
Rev. T. Fehily, A. Craig, J. Clark, F. Cleary, J. Falloon, R. Hanlon, J. Tonner.

In 1946 the Celtic Supporters' Association donated a cup, known as the "John Thomson Memorial Trophy," for competition among the Boys' Guilds of Scotland. The final of this trophy is, on all occasions, played at Celtic Park. Mossend were the first winners of the trophy in 1946-47, and they repeated this success in the following season.



REV. WILLIAM BRADLEY.
(See page 28, column 2)

The team that represented the Guild on the first occasion was: R. Coyle; E. Callaghan and J. Sweeney; F. Feeney, R. Nesbit and A. Powers; J. Quinn and J. Fullarton; A. Cephelauskas; A. Carr and L. Seagrave.

In 1947-48, the team was: J. Walsh; T. Crielly and J. Jack; P. Taylor, R. Nesbit and F. Feeney; J. Quinn and J. Fullarton; A. Cephelauskas; A. Carr and L. Seagrave.

The C.Y.M.S.

A branch of the C.Y.M.S. was inaugurated in the parish by Father McMenemy in 1926, and the Rev. Dr. McDaid was appointed as its first spiritual director. The first president was Willie Lynch, and the first secretary John Devine.

On the religious side the branch was very active. The monthly Communion saw most of the members in attendance, and the chaplain's spiritual talk, at the meetings, was looked forward to with much eagerness.



REV. ANTHONY KILCOYNE.

and lively and interesting discussions often arose out of it. A Study Circle was formed under the leadership of James Quinn and meetings were held regularly to study the C.Y.M.S. plan, "Christianise Our Families."

The Retreats' Movement, under J. McCabe and W. Paterson, saw many members make week-end Retreats at Craighead, and by their efforts many men in the parish, outwith the C.Y.M.S., joined in these Retreats.

The Daily Mass Crusade was established in 1944 and was highly successful. The branch in 1938 sent James Larkin and an invalid parishioner to Lourdes, and in 1948 nine members visited the Shrine. In the following year two members were sent to Rome to participate in the Centenary Pilgrimage.

A Passion play was produced by J. McFarnon in 1948, and the players gave several performances for charitable causes.

The Concert Party, with regulars such as D. Tonner, J. McConnell, T. Larkin, Tommy Donnelly and others, and assisted by Miss M. Cairns and Miss B. Garrity, travelled to many parishes in the West and East of Scotland to give concerts in aid of charity. The Concert Party was fortunate to have as accompanists, always ready and willing to give their services, Miss Letitia McGurk and Miss Helen Clinton. Other Chaplains to the branch besides Dr. McDaid, already mentioned, were Father (later Canon) Brooks, Father Butler, Father Kilcoyne and Father Fehily.



Back row: J. Duffy, J. Patsay, J. Black, J. Boyd, J. McFadden, J. Murphy, J. Love, D. Murray, P. Gogarty, T. O'Brien.
Front row: J. Higgins, E. Keddily, J. Rennie, T. Gallagher, E. Blake, J. McGhee, J. Moynagh, T. McCabe, J. Larkin, E. Bradshaw.

Benefit Societies

In the early part of this century there were in the parish three benefit organisations which did much good work in alleviating distress when the bread-winners of the families, through illness, were unable to follow their various occupations. These organisations, the Irish National Foresters, the United Irish League and the Ancient Order of Hibernians, provided aliment to its members at a time when there was no National Insurance. The National Insurance Act did not come into being until 1911.

Later on, about two years before the First World War, a branch of the Scottish Catholic Insurance Society was established in the parish. It may be that the local branch of the Foresters had gone out of existence, but we cannot say for certain. The S.C.I.S. in Mossend was one of the largest and most flourishing branches in the Archdiocese and had about 1,200 members. Dean Cronin was the Hon. President, Mr. Patrick McGeechan, President, Mr. William Moore, Secretary, and Mr. James Murphy, Treasurer.

S.V.D.P.

In 1902 a branch of the St. Vincent de Paul was formed in the parish. The officials elected at the first meeting in October were: President, Henry McCarey; Vice-President, Charles Gallagher; Treasurer, Henry McDonald; Secretary, James McCourt.

The great work done by our S.V.D.P. Brothers, from those far-off days down to the present time, is incalculable. We have been fortunate, it is true, in this parish, in always having had men willing to come forward and sacrifice their time in the interests of those who, through no fault of theirs, suffer from privation.

In recent years, besides alleviating hardship among the poor and the needy of all denominations, they have taken it upon themselves to visit in hospital the sick and the aged who require constant nursing attention. Their great worth is recognised by most of us; and the tasks that they undertake are a shining example to everyone, or should be, in the practice of the great Christian virtue of Charity.

The Lithuanians

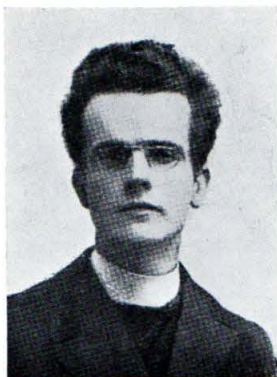
It is said that a few Lithuanians came to this district about 1855, men who had been captured during the Crimean War which was raging at that time, and that they settled down here. There is, however, no definite proof of this. Later on, about the end of the century, fairly large numbers came and settled not only in the Bellshill-Mossend district, but also in other mining areas in Lanarkshire.

The reason for their emigration seems to have been religious persecution or an attempt to better their economic circumstances, or both. Perhaps the greatest

number settled in the Mossend parish, in the environs of which at that time were a number of coal mines and, of course, the local steelworks. The faces of the miners begrimed with coal dust, and the clip-clop of the clogs worn by some of the steelworkers, were then familiar sights and sounds in this neighbourhood.

When the new school opened in 1907, there were to be found in every classroom children of these Lithuanian immigrants. They were, almost without exception, bilingual, speaking English at school and at home their native language. Their progress in scholastic work was in no way impaired by this switching about of speech, as those who were contemporary with them can readily testify. They fitted in admirably alongside their schoolmates and it can be truthfully said that they were, in the main, an asset to the school.

To meet the religious needs of the Lithuanians, one of their own native priests was sent to Lanarkshire as their chaplain, and he was given accommodation in the old Presbytery in this Mission. He was Father John Czuberkis, and he took up his duties here in April, 1904. His place was taken for the next two years by Father Antony Racewicz, and then in 1907 Father Czuberkis returned and remained till 1910. Next came Father Francis Vasiliauskas, who remained in Mossend for two years until he was recalled to Lithuania in 1912. He was succeeded by Father Joseph Norbut, who ministered to the Lithuanians in the West of Scotland until 1921 when he was succeeded by Father Joseph Petrauskis.



REV. JOSEPH NORBUT.

For 15 years Father Petrauskis laboured among his flock in this country, and it came as a great shock to the whole community when he died suddenly in 1934. His devotion and his zeal, together with his friendly disposition, had made him a much loved priest and

his death was a great loss to the Lithuanians in Scotland and particularly so to those in the Mossend parish.



REV. JOSEPH PETRAUSKIS.

Father Joseph Gutauskas was the next Lithuanian chaplain to be appointed, and he came here in 1934. He remained in this parish until 1941 when he left, and now, as the Right Rev. Monsignor Gutauskas, he is stationed in St. Columba's, Glasgow.

The older Lithuanians still take delight in conversing in their own language. Some of their customs, too, which they brought from their native land, they still retain and have passed them on to their sons and daughters born in Scotland. They have a hall of their own at Mossend Cross, where they meet for social evenings, and where they can sing the songs of their native land. There, too, is printed their own newspaper, *Draugas* (Friendship), which has been in circulation for almost half a century. For many years they had a general store at the West End, Bellshill, and a bakery at Calder Road, Mossend.

The Lithuanians have long since been accepted on equal terms with people born and reared in Scotland. In the early days of their coming here there was a certain amount of hostility to them from certain quarters, but, fortunately, that no longer exists.

From our school have come not a few who have made their mark in the various professions and who are a credit to the parish and to their race. They are to be found also in the Religious Orders, and it is pleasing to record here that Father Anthony Bancewicz, one of the curates in St. Margaret Mary parish, Glasgow, is a son of Mr. John Bancewicz, headmaster of St. John Ogilvie High School, Burnbank, who, like the other members of his family, is a well-known former parishioner.



Back row: J. Maguire, F. Bradley, P. Tobin, J. Scanlan.

Second row: B. West, E. Frew, H. McParland, J. Keenan, P. O'Hanlon, D. Carr, J. McCann.

Front row: W. Murphy, J. Rooney, Rev. W. Sproul (Chaplain), H. Lavery (G.K.), D. Fletcher.

Knights of St. Columba

Branch 103 of the K.S.C. was established in the parish in 1926 with Denis Connelly as Secretary. From then on to 1939 it was a very active organisation, but during the war period its activities ceased. In 1947, however, Bro. James Rooney re-organised the branch and soon had it back to its former strength.

The Mossend Council organised in October, 1965, a Religious Vocations Exhibition in the Parochial Halls. The Exhibition lasted for two weeks, and was a huge success. It is reckoned that it attracted over 12,000 visitors, many coming from distant lands.

Kinderspiels

Fifty years ago, and long before that time, musical plays in the schools were known as kinderspiels. In the early part of this century, at least after the new school opened in 1907, for these productions a tem-

porary stage was erected in the school hall at that part of it next to the girls' entrance. The first landing in the school served as a gallery, if the accommodation in the hall itself was being overtaxed.

Here is an account of a kinderspiel produced in 1910:

"The children of the Holy Family provided a grand kinderspiel and variety entertainment in honour of St. Patrick's festival last Friday and Saturday evenings, Rev. Dean Cronin presiding.

"The first part of the programme consisted of a song of welcome, a prologue recited by Agnes McCourt, the Kerry Reel by Josephine Jackson, Agnes McCourt, M. McGarry and A. Sullivan; the Fairy Reel by Josephine Jackson, Agnes McCourt, M. McGarry, Daniel Tonner and Tom Reid; star song and drill; Sailor's Hornpipe by Sarah Greer—all of which items were charmingly gone through.

"Thereafter the senior pupils gave an excellent production of the kinderspiel, 'Playmates,' the singing of the girls being charming."

Kinderspiels were produced in the parish right up to 1920, and two very successful ones we recall, produced by Mr. Daniel, were the "Mayor of Ballyowen" and "Dan the Newsboy."

League of the Cross

A branch of the League of the Cross was formed in the parish in 1891, by Father Fox. The members of the League of the Cross pledged themselves to abstain, at all times, from intoxicating drink. As an



organisation it was widespread throughout the various parishes in the West of Scotland, where it flourished for many years, until it was finally dissolved in the early 'twenties.

The Parochial Halls

The opening of the new school in 1907 allowed the old school to be used now exclusively for the parishioners. At that time, and actually away back into the 'nineties, there was an organisation in most parishes, especially in the West of Scotland, called the League of the Cross. A branch was formed in Mossend in 1891. Most parochial halls in those days were called League Halls, and our parochial hall was no exception. There were usually to be found in the League Halls billiards tables and tables for card games. Mossend followed this routine with five billiards tables and adjacent to them the tables for cards. Billiards Leagues were formed in Glasgow and Lanarkshire, and the first Secretary of the Billiards League in Lanarkshire, formed in 1908, was a Mossend parishioner, Mr. J. J. Cummins, later to become manager of the Clyde F.C.

The League Hall, now the Parochial Halls, has been used extensively during the past sixty years for social functions of various kinds, also for drama, concerts, badminton, parish meetings, parochial meetings, meetings of different societies in the parish and sales of work.

Without the Parochial Halls the social life of the parish would have been practically negligible. To-day the halls are well equipped, having good lighting, electric heating, comfortable seating, cooking facilities and well-fitted cloakrooms.

Mr. James Dempsey

Although now resident in the Sacred Heart parish, Bellshill, we, in the Mossend parish, claim Mr. James Dempsey as our very own. He was born in the Holy Family parish, and was educated at Mossend School and at St. Patrick's, New Stevenston.



MR. JAMES DEMPSEY, M.P.

Later, he studied Economics and Finance and Commercial Law and was awarded a Diploma in Social History.

It came as no surprise to those who were aware of his undoubted ability when he was elected in 1945 at a comparatively early age, as a Lanark County Councillor for Bellshill South. Capable, earnest, painstaking and industrious, as he always has been, it gave great pleasure to all who knew him and recognised his worth when in October, 1959, he was elected M.P. for Coatbridge and Airdrie.

War Decorations

Mr. William Cairns, a former member of our school staff, and later headmaster of St. Aloysius' School, Chapelhall, was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal in World War One.

Terence Rafferty, the janitor in the school for many years, was awarded the Military Medal in World War One and was a representative of the British Legion at the Coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1937.

In World War Two James Sherry was awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal in 1944. James McFarlane and Robert Kilpatrick won the Military Medal.

The Operas

In 1923 Mr. Daniel considered that there was in the parish enough good talent with which he could produce an opera. Having gathered together those who, he thought, would have the necessary ability for such a venture, he held practices in the school throughout the late months of 1923 and the early months of 1924. Then in April of that year an opera, Wallace's *Maritana*, was produced for three evenings in the Mossend Pavilion. It was an outstanding success and people came from far and near to hear it. Not only that, it was also produced in Cambuslang, Whifflet, Coatbridge and Uddingston.

The principals in this opera, which had given so much pleasure to many, were Danny Cairns, Kitty Diamond, Nellie McChrystal, John McGowan, Tom McCormack, Mary O'Neill, James Donnelly, Pat Moynagh, Andrew McGuckin and Ann Campbell.

Miss Kitty Diamond, who had given such charming performance in the *Maritana* of 1924, produced in the late 'forties three of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas. The principals in each of these were:

Pirates of Penzance: Tom McNally, Charlie O'Neill, Dan Corr, Charlie Higgins, Gerry Slevin, May Cairns, Ella Cairns, Bernadette Higgins, Margaret Larkin and Cathie Larkin.

The Gondoliers: Charlie O'Neill, James Murphy, Gerry Slevin, Bobbie Morrison, Tom Vallyely, Jimmy Martin, James Gillies, Willie Raeside, Tommy Donnelly, May McAlinden, Rose Cranney, Nan Davidson, Margaret Larkin, Bernadette Higgins, Ann Connor, Mary Tracey and Ann Judge.

The Mikado: J. O'Neill, Lawrence Banks, Tom Vallyely, Alex. Devaney, Edward O'Neill, Tom McCann, Nan Davidson, Nessie Cairns, Rose Mullen and Mae McLinden.

Maritana (1950): Edward O'Neill, Gerald Slevin, Tommy Donnelly, Nessie Cairns, William Raeside, Ella Cairns, Mae McLinden, Joseph McNally and Thomas Hughes.

In the early 'fifties Miss Nellie McChrystal, whose splendid performances in the 1924 *Maritana* are well remembered, with casts drawn from the Holy Family Boys' and Girls' Youth Club, produced two operettas, *Ali Ba-Ba* and *Aladdin and Out*. The principals in the casts were:

Ali Ba-Ba: Steven Feeney, Jean McGuire, Anthony Poutney, Owen Greer, James McAtamney, Magnus Taylor, Christina Lynch, Josephine Cassidy, Catherine Brown and Mary Fyfe.

Aladdin and Out: Tommy Donnelly, Stephen O'Neill, Owen Greer, James Sweeney, John Gallagher, Michael Seagrave, James Gallagher, James McGarry, John Seagrave, Tom Clark, William Raeside, James Gallagher, Cathie Doyle and Chrissie Lynch.

These operas and operettas were produced in the Miners' Welfare Hall, Bellshill, and each of them ran for three evenings and attracted large audiences. They brought to the doorstep, as it were, of the parishioners a feast of fine singing, lovely music and good acting; in fact, they were all unforgettable performances.

"MARITANA," 1924



Fourth row: Rose McCormick, Annie McIlvanney, Bridget Welsh, Kate McCabe, —, Mary McCurdy, Susan Devine, Bessie Reid, Bridget McConnell, Cassie Connolly, J. McDougall, Chrissie Harvey, Peggy O'Neill, Margaret McCormick, Jane O'Neill.
Third row: Paddy Reid, Pat Moynagh, Hugh Howard, Bernard Bradley, Arthur Brown, Mr. John Daniel (Headmaster), Bernard Donnachie, Pat McFadyen, P. Cairns, Andrew McGuckin, Tommy McCormick.
Second row: Nancy Keddlity, Peter Donnelly, Mary O'Neill, Kitty Diamond, Rev. Duncan Brown, Nellie McChrystal, A. Campbell, Danny Cairns, Agnes McIlvanney, Margaret Keddlity.
First row: Nellie Briody, Letitia Reid, A. Toal, —, Maggie Fagan, Bridget Coyle, Lizzie McCourt, Nellie Lawlor, A. Hunt, Patricia Donnelly, Agnes Gallagher, Cissie O'Neill, Mrs. Tiffney.

"THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE," 1946



Back row: J. Martin, T. Donnelly, L. Dillon, J. Murphy, P. Briody, A. Miller, J. Collins, J. Love, P. Bradshaw, W. Fraser, C. Bradshaw, S. O'Neill.
Centre row: D. Tonner, D. O'Connell, M. McEwan, M. Smith, M. Brown, M. Mitchell, R. Cranney, E. Smith, E. Briody, N. Cairns, M. Briody, J. Canning.
Bottom row: Rev. S. Keane, S. Flannery, E. Higgins, M. Larkin, C. O'Neill, E. Cairns, M. Cairns, C. Higgins, B. Higgins, D. Corr, C. Larkin, M. Brennan, M. Craigen, K. Diamond.

MOSSEND ST. VINCENT SILVER BAND



Back row: P. McCall, Jas. Reid (Junn.), John Reid, F. McGhee, J. McGuire, J. Mitchell, M. Murphy, J. McKernan, J. Quinn, J. Murray, Jas. Reid (Senr.), T. O'Raw.
Middle row: J. Murphy, P. Coakley, P. Steele, D. Welsh, H. Murphy, M. Degnant, F. McLeshie, J. McGinty, J. Reilly, J. Devine.
Front row: D. Moore, P. Quinn, J. Moore, Rev. T. Brooks, P. Steele, D. Burns, P. Maley.

Bands

Towards the end of last century there was in the parish a brass band known as the Bellshill Union Band, and in 1902 the Emmet Flute Band was formed.

Bands were very popular at one time and were in great demand for parades, outings and gala days, all of which, around this district, are now things of the past.

The old Union Band remained in existence until 1916 when the St. Vincent Band was formed, and they used the instruments of the old band and enlisted some of their players. The instructors of the St. Vincent Band were then the brothers Pat and John Quinn.

The Emmet Flute Band was formed in 1902, its tutor being Philip Boyle. Its services were much in demand, especially for Irish demonstrations and parades. One of its last engagements was at our

parish picnic round about 1923 when this photograph was taken.

The St. Vincent Band survived until after the Second World War, and its engagements were many and diverse. The Steele, Quinn and Reid families had, in all, nine members connected to the band.

In the middle 'thirties Andrew McGuckin won a national competition sponsored by the *Daily Record*, entitling him to a scholarship at Manchester College of Music. Here he obtained the Bandmasters' Diploma of the British Bandmaster's College of Music.

Jimmy Reid, who by the way, is still conducting, played for St. John's Band, Port Glasgow, in 1957, when they won the Second Section of the Scottish Band Championship. The passing of these bands has left a gap in the lives of the parishioners, a gap that will probably never be filled. They gave pleasure to many, and those who were fortunate to hear them play will not readily forget them.

MOSSEND EMMET FLUTE BAND, 1923

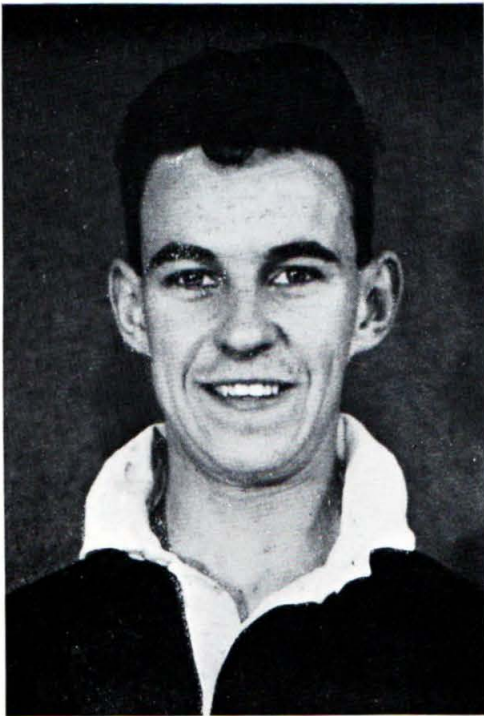


D. Murray, —, J. Savage, —, D. Cairns, B. Newlis, J. Potsay, H. Mullin, J. O'Hara, W. Garrity.
J. Crielly, M. McKeown, M. Tracey, J. Savage, J. McGuire.
P. Tracey, J. Murray, J. Devine.

'The Boys' Guild Juveniles

In 1940 there was formed in the parish a juvenile team, the players being drawn from former Boys' Guild members, here and elsewhere.

During their existence, from 1940 to 1948, they won many honours, including the Scottish Juvenile Cup on two occasions. The team which represented Moss-end when they won the Scottish Cup in 1940-41 was: J. Howard; G. Kelly and J. Kelly; J. Chambers, T. O'Neill and M. Garrity; J. Newall and F. Walsh; W. Harper; J. Murphy and H. Hamilton.



JOHN LAWLOR,
Scottish Secondary Schools,
Ireland 1951, England 1952.



PATSY MCCONNELL,
Doncaster Rovers and Ireland.



BILLY MCNEILL, Celtic and Scotland.

BELLSHILL UNION BRASS BAND



LIST OF PRIESTS WHO HAVE SERVED IN HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

PARISH PRIESTS

| | | |
|--|-------|-------------|
| Rev. James Milne | - - - | 1868 - 1881 |
| Rev. Michael Fox, D.D. | - - - | 1881 - 1892 |
| Rev. Michael Hughes (<i>later Canon</i>) | | 1892 - 1904 |
| Rev. John Scannell | - - - | 1904 - 1907 |
| Rev. Francis Cronin | - - - | 1907 - 1918 |
| Rev. Duncan Brown | - - - | 1918 - 1926 |
| Rev. John McMenemy | - - - | 1926 - 1936 |
| Rev. William Flanagan | - - - | 1937 - 1951 |
| Rev. Peter Murie | - - - | 1952 - 1953 |
| Rev. Patrick Kelly (<i>later Canon</i>) | - | 1953 - |

CURATES AND LITHUANIAN CHAPLAINS

| | | |
|---|-------|-------------|
| Rev. Charles Daly | - - - | 1895 - 1899 |
| Rev. Michael McCormack | - - - | 1899 - 1901 |
| Rev. Patrick Griffin | - - - | 1900 - 1904 |
| Rev. Benjamin Kenneally (<i>later Canon</i>) | | 1904 - 1913 |
| Rev. John B. Czuberkis | - - - | 1904 - 1910 |
| Rev. Michael Collins | - - - | 1905 - 1909 |
| Rev. Timothy Kelleher | - - - | 1909 - 1915 |
| Rev. Francis Vasiliauskas | - - - | 1910 - 1912 |
| Rev. Joseph Norbut | - - - | 1912 - 1920 |
| Rev. Joseph Kennedy | - - - | 1913 - 1928 |
| Rev. William Bradley | - - - | 1915 - 1918 |
| Rev. Daniel McLaughlin | - - - | 1918 - 1924 |

| | | |
|---|-------|-------------|
| Rev. Joseph Petrauskis | - - - | 1920 - 1934 |
| Rev. Denis F. McDaid, D.D. (<i>later Mgr.</i>) | | 1924 - 1927 |
| Rev. Thomas Brooks (<i>later Canon</i>) | | 1927 - 1942 |
| Rev. William Brennan | - - - | 1928 - 1929 |
| Rev. Samuel McIsaac | - - - | 1929 - 1933 |
| Rev. Aloysius McGurk | - - - | 1933 - 1934 |
| Rev. Joseph Gutauskas (<i>later Mgr.</i>) | | 1934 - 1941 |
| Rev. James Kilpatrick (<i>later Canon</i>) | | 1935 - 1936 |
| Rev. Bernard Feeney | - - - | 1936 - 1937 |
| Rev. David L. Power | - - - | 1937 - 1941 |
| Rev. Stephen A. Keane | - - - | 1938 - 1948 |
| Rev. James Butler | - - - | 1943 - 1949 |
| Rev. Thomas Fehily | - - - | 1943 - 1952 |
| Rev. Anthony Kilcoyne | - - - | 1949 - 1953 |
| Rev. Edward Laverty | - - - | 1953 - 1955 |
| Rev. James K. Rogers | - - - | 1954 - 1956 |
| Rev. John Givens | - - - | 1955 - 1957 |
| Rev. Andrew Tunn | - - - | 1956 - 1958 |
| Rev. David Cullen | - - - | 1957 - 1958 |
| Rev. Hugh Mahon | - - - | 1958 - 1959 |
| Rev. William Sproul | - - - | 1958 - |
| Rev. Robert Milligan | - - - | 1960 - 1961 |
| Rev. Charles Doherty | - - - | 1961 - 1965 |
| Rev. Martin O'Keeffe | - - - | 1965 - 1967 |
| Rev. Michael Cunnane | - - - | 1967 - |



REV. GEORGE BOYD.



REV. PATRICK BOYD, W.F.



REV. FRANK BRIODY, W.F.



RT. REV. MGR. JOHN CANON MCQUILLAN,
D.D., PH.D., J.C.L.



REV. DENIS GARRITY.



REV. JAMES JACKSON.



REV. JOHN LOVE
(Rosminians).



REV. HUGH MURPHY.



REV. EDMUND CAMPION,
O.F.M. (Arthur McCool).